

From the Upper Chamber



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Report for Tuesday, February 21, 2006

The twenty-first day of the 2006 legislative session was called to order by Lieutenant Governor **Mark Taylor**.

Senator **Bill Stephens** of the 27th stated that the journal had been read and was found to be correct.

Senate Bills 571-580; Senate Resolution 943; and House Bills 57, 1151, 1312, 1322, 1324, 1327-1329, 1332-1334, 1348; and House Resolution 1258 were read for the first time and assigned to their respective Committees.

Following the afternoon roll call, the Secretary read the reports of Standing Committees and second reading of Senate Bills and Resolutions.

Lt. Gov. **Taylor** then recognized Sen. **Jack Hill** of the 4th to lead the Senate in the Pledge of Allegiance. Sen. **Hill** of the 4th introduced the *Chaplain of the Day*, Reverend **Max Alderman** of Bible Baptist Church in Statesboro, who led the Senate in the daily devotional.

The Secretary read SR 667, which expresses condolences to the family of Marine Corporal **William Grady Taylor**, who was killed in the war in Iraq. Senators **Cecil Staton** of the 18th, **Ronnie Chance** of the 16th, **John Douglas** of the 17th, **Seth Harp** of the 29th and **Robert Brown** of the 26th took the rostrum to speak in memory of Corporal **Taylor**.

The Secretary read SR 707, which commends **Elisabeth Williams-Omilami** and **Afemo Omilami**, co-directors of the **Hosea Williams'** Feed the Hungry and Homeless program, for their work feeding the homeless in Georgia. Sen. **Steen Miles** of the 43rd and others took the rostrum to commend the **Omilamis** for their continuing efforts in helping to provide meals to the less fortunate.

Sen. **Judson Hill** of the 32nd took the well to introduce the *Doctor of the Day*, Dr. **James Hornsby** of Marietta.

The Secretary read SR 805, which commends the Peachtree City police department. Sens. **Chance** and **Valencia Seay** of the 34th took the rostrum to commend several Peachtree City police officers for their work in apprehending on-line sexual predators.

The Secretary read SR 947, which commends the Truancy Intervention Project for its 15 years of work in preventing school truancy. Sen. **David Adelman** of the 42nd took the rostrum to present the resolution to representatives of the Project.

The Secretary read SR 859, which commends **Kathy Evans** of Hall County for her work in providing library services to the disabled community. Sen. **Casey Cagle** of the 49th took the well to honor Mrs. **Evans** for her efforts.

Sen. **Michael Meyer von Bremen** of the 12th took the well on a Point of Personal Privilege to invite everyone to Metro Albany Night at the Georgia Train Depot.

Sens. **Ed Tarver** of the 22nd and **J.B. Powell** of the 23rd took the well on Points of Personal Privilege to invite the Senate to the Augusta Night Reception at the Georgia Train Depot, and to welcome guests from Augusta/Richmond County present in the Senate gallery.

Sen. **Brown** took the well on a Point of Personal Privilege to thank the Senate for their outpouring of support during the recent passing of his mother.

Sen. **Vincent Fort** of the 39th took the well on a Point of Personal Privilege to speak against a bill on today's Local Consent Calendar. He also remarked on the lawsuit recently filed by the ACLU that would "un-gag" the information the Senate Ethics Committee is privy to when an ethics complaint is filed against a member of the state Senate.

Sen. **Adelman** took the well on a Point of Personal Privilege to commend Sen. **Fort** for his courage in filing the ethics lawsuit.

SR 939-942, 944 and 945 were read and adopted.

Sen. **Douglas** moved to withdraw SB 538, 539 and 523 from the Public Safety and Homeland Security Committee and to commit the bills to the Veterans and Military Affairs Committee. There was no objection.

The Local Consent Calendar, consisting of SB 501 and HB 816, 1207 and 1265, passed by a vote of 52 to 1.

The Secretary read SR 760, which dedicates the *Dr. Eddie Marlow Medical Clinic* in Dalton. Sen. **Don Thomas** of the 54th took the well to urge passage of the resolution.

SR 760 was adopted by a vote of 52 to 0.

The Secretary read SR 823, which conveys public property in 13 counties. Sen. **Johnny Grant** of the 25th took the well to present the bill, which is a basic housekeeping resolution.

SR 823 was adopted by a vote of 53 to 0.

The Secretary read HB 1173, which would redraw House Districts 46, 48, 50 and 51. Sen. **Chip Rogers** of the 21st took the well to present the bill and maps of the proposed House Districts. He yielded to questions from Sen. **Brown**.

Sen. **Tim Golden** of the 8th took the well to speak against HB 1173, stating that it goes against the reapportionment guidelines set by the U.S. Constitution.

Sen. **Adelman** also took the well to speak against HB 1173, suggesting that Representatives and Senators should not be able to choose their constituents. He yielded to questions from Sen. **Steve Thompson** of the 33rd.

HB 1137 passed by a vote of 33 to 21.

After the announcements, Majority Leader **Tommie Williams** of the 19th moved the Senate stand adjourned until 10:00 a.m., Wednesday, February 22.

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